## Amusements To-day.

Academy of Hunic—Harths. Abbry's Park Theatre—The Legion of Honor. Buoth's Theatre-Ottello. Brooklyn Pa & Theatre-The Snow Plawer Bijou Opera House—Laws Team Bunnell'a Museum—Curiositics Chickering Hall—Pastin Play. Daly's Theate: -Needles and Pins. Grand Opera Monas—3i List. Haverly's tath No. I beatre—Hawatha. Haverly's Eth Av. Th intre-Evalus. Haverly's Nihlo's Garden—Colorel Mineticla Maverly's Theatre, Brooklyn-Otto. kaster & Bial's Concert Matt-Concert Hadlaon Aquare Theotre-Ham Kirks, Havonic Temple-Psychology Dinatrated, Biddleton's Dime Museum-218 Newsy, Novelty Theatre, Brooklyn—Only's Parmer's Disghi-Bon Francisco Minstell—Brookway and 190-01. standard Theatre-Matrimony. Stendard Theatre—Batrimony.
Theatre Comique—Sulligas Guards Nomines,
Tony Pastor's Theatre—Paristy.
Union Square Theatre—Doniel Rockst.
Wallack's Theatre—The Guy'nur.

Windsor Theatre-Hamlet. The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending Dec. 11, 1880, was:

117.665 Weekly.... 106.806 Thursday... 109.704 Friday... 108,999 Saturday... Total for the week ...

The Evening Express reports the following as the opinion of a member of the Tammany Hall Committee on Organization:

"Jonn Ketty will always have at his side the mem bers of Tammany Hall, and every election day 50,000 Democratic voters in this county, who love him for his manly traits, are always satisfied to be guided by his

This seems to us to be placing a very low estimate upon the Americanism, the independence, the personality of character, of our adopted citizens of Irish birth, and our native-born citizens of Irish descent.

Will they really, to the number of fifty thousand, continue to follow John Kelly; to be led by him as if he had rings in their noses, and to wear his collars?

We say this is deplorable if true. Why should not every one of these fifty thousand men be a man—a true American—and lead

It is to be hoped that the opinion we have quoted will prove entirely erroneous, and that on the ruins of Tammany will rise a free and untrammelled Democracy, wearing no man's collar and bearing no man's brand, and all leading themselves.

### Progress in Centralization.

The special deputy marshals will be duly paid for their partisan election services by appropriations at the present session or the next. There will be no change in the system until the people sweep the Republican party from power. All Federal elections, and all State elections when held at the same times and places, will be controlled by Federal officials, with the army placed at their back. Not content with this state of affairs. Mr. HAYES now recommends that the Republican Congress shall look into the elections in the Southern States, and, turning out those who have been elected, seat those who, in their own opinion, ought to have been elected.

We have now Bureaus of Agriculture, Statistics, Education; bureaus upon bureaus, growing up in every department, eating up the substance of the people, but increasing the power and patronage of the Executive. HAYES and GARFIELD want the authority of the Federal Government extended over the whole field of the education of the young; the most gigantic stride toward centralization proposed since Hamilton's first scheme in the convention which framed the Constitution. The Weather Bureau is already firmly established, and its functions will perhaps be enlarged to suit the ambition of the military courtier who may finally be appointed as its chief.

Shades of JEFFERSON and MADISON! The Federal Government running the schools and predicting the weather!

# Be Warned in Time.

When disaster overtakes a business house in a time of general mercantile adversity there are some compensations for the shipwrecked firm. They may have done the best they could under the circumstances. The sinking of other enterprises may have parried them down. There is, besides, for them the consolation which human nature always takes in the consciousness that they are not alone in misfortune, but that the calamities which have come to them are a

But it is very different when a proud mercantile house succumbs in a time of great and general prosperity. Then the humiliation it feels and the self-accusation in which it indulges must be especially distressing. It invited its misfortune. When the channel of prosperity was clear and open it wildly and foolishly steered its craft upon the breakers.

While we sympathize with the individual members of the very reputable and well-established grocery houses which have suspended payment during the week, we cannot mourn that the methods of business they adopted have had so severe a rebuke.

It has been manifest since the revival of trade that in all its departments attempts were making to disturb its healthy progress for speculative purposes. The first great commodity to feel the effects of the growing prosperity was iron. The demand for iron is usually a gauge of the condition of trade, commerce, and manufacture. When they are active it is strong, but when they are depressed the furnaces and the foundries are the first to suffer seriously.

After the long period of business stagnadon we began to discover evidences of better times ahead when the iron trade grew profit able. Iron had been at prices which were almost destructive to the business. The fires in many of the furnaces had been blown out; wages of miners and foundrymen were low; pig iron was a drug in the market, and importation had practically reased. The accumulated stock was more than enough to supply the demand, and only the iron men who were strongly supported by capital were able to we ther the protracted period of depression.

Suddenly, however, the demand became active. The railroads, which had put off necessary repairs and additions to their relling stock, were compelled to improve the condition and increase the facilities of their lines, in order to move the magnificent harvest, for which short European crops caused an unprecedented demand. All departments of business began to sympathize with this special prosperity, and the upspringing of the general manufacturing interest joined in giving an extraordinary impulse to the pivotal iron trade. Iron speedily ran up from fifteen or seventeen dollars a ton to twenty-five, forty, forty-five dollars a ton

A large advance was a natural and healthy

ure which made it exceedingly profitable to bring iron from the other side. Many cargoes of foreign ores were also shipped t hither. In the month of April of this y ear alone 233,907 tons of British iron wer sent to the United States. The result vas a glut in the market, followed by some failures and much loss among speculators. During the year, however, the trade has got into a healthier state, and no, w the great demand, which promises next year to be in excess of any we have known, is absorbing the domestic production, and prices have settled bring over foreign iron and sell it at the rates current here, for prices are now im-

proving abroad. If the iron market is left to take its natural course, therefore, there will be profit all around, and probably a steady improvement in prices between now and spring. Fortunately, the iron speculators have already burned their fingers.

But the tendency to speculation which was so soon developed in Iron has extended to all the great commodities, and the tape in brokers' offices in Wall street has been recording the prices of grain and provisions, as well as of stocks and bonds. It looked at one time\_as if the whole of trade would become a game of chance, a fight between bulls and bears.

And even now, warned by the failures in he coffee trade, people are asking whether prices are real and stable, or how far they are speculative. That is the feeling in the provision market, which has been marked by advance and decline during the week. loffee and tea have fallen in price, and the market is very unsettled, owing to the failures of the great speculative houses. The cotton market, always a favorite one for speculators, is in the same unsettled and abnormal condition. The bears had their way for a time during the week; then there was a reactionary advance, then depression again.

In breadstuffs also the evils of speculation have been seriously felt during the week. Great fluctuations have occurred in wheat, but the tendency of prices has been downward. The supply has increased, and the export demand has been small. Corn has also declined, in consequence of rapidly augmenting supplies. It is the same with

The dry goods market is in a better condition. It gives evidences of more legitimate ousiness methods.

As to the coffee trade, in which the great and suggestive disasters have occurred, each depending on the other, it has been for a year in a condition to render abortive all attempts to control or corner the market. The new and greater facilities for transporting the crop from Brazil have overstocked our market, and made a decline n prices entirely legitimate. We had on hand in November more than double the quantity of Brazilian coffee we had a year before, and of other coffees the increase in the supply was even greater. Jobbers are also importing largely on their own account, and any attempt to control the market is therefore made more difficult. The production of coffee has also been on the increase, and, though we are the greatest coffee drinkers in the world, the supply is large enough to give us the beans at prices which are low, compared with what they have been frequently in the past.

The people, therefore, have reason to rejoice that natural causes are defeating the efforts of the speculators to push up the prices of the staple commodities; but, as to trade, its healthy progress is checked, and merchants who do a sound and legitimate business are injured and rendered anxious by the introduction of Wall street methods. Perhaps the late failures will serve as a warning.

# Trials Before Referees.

Some of the most serious objections to trials before referees would be obviated if those officers were not so wont to depart from the modes of trial pursued in court. A referee ought to try a case as nearly as possible in the same manner as it would be tried by a single Judge at Special Term. Any departure from that method is likely to give rise to difficulty and dissatisfaction, as has recently been illustrated by two cases which came before Judge LARREMORE at the November Special Term of the Court of Common Pleas.

In one of these cases it was charged that the referee was absent from the room in which the trial was conducted while a portion of the testimony was being taken. A stenographer was in attendance taking down the evidence, and counsel on both sides proceeded with the examination of the witness then on the stand without objection on account of the absence of the referee. But this shorthand writer appears subsequently to have become dissatisfied by reason of the non-payment of his fees, and thereupon he carried off his minutes to the State of Rhode Island. Their summary exportation in this manner had, it was alleged, deprived the referee of all opportunity to read the evidence given during his absence; yet he had

proceeded to render judgment. Now, of course it is perfectly clear that no valid judgment could be rendered if the referee had in fact neither heard nor read the testimony so given; but he denied the charge, showing that counsel had gone on with their questions by consent during his temporary withdrawal from the room, and, furthermore, that he did in fact read the stenographer's notes of the very testimony then taken, before their removal from his office. The most that can be said, therefore, is that in deciding the case he considered evidence which indeed he had not heard, but which both parties intended he should

read instead. Although the referee may thus be exonerated from all blame, it is nevertheless plain that adherence to the true rule of continual presence throughout every moment of the trial is the only wise and prudent course. Referees themselves ought to refuse their consent to any proceedings being had in their absence, even though counsel may desire to go on. If that course had been pursued in the case we have mentioned, an unpleasant and annoying controversy would have been avoided. No one ever heard of a trial in court at Special Term being allowed to proceed in the absence of the Judge; and hereafter it ought to be equally impossible for a reference to proceed in the absence of the referee.

The carclessness of referees in allowing their minutes of testimony to go out of their possession is also the source of no little trouble in litigation. A referee ought never to part with his notes of the evidence taken n a case tried before him. They should be under his control always, just as similar notes taken in court always remain under the control of the Judge. If a stenographer has been employed, when his transcript of the testimony once comes into the possession of the referee it should remain there. The parties to the suit or their counsel may examine it as much as they like, but they must not take it away. This would be the I .

quence was that prices have reached a fig- one would feel hurt at any implied lack of cor fidence in refusing to lend the minutes. Applications based on alleged losses of referees' minutes are becoming very frequent in our courts and are often very vexatious; but they would be almost wholly prevented in the future by some such rule

as we have suggested. In the second of the two cases in the Court of Common Pleas, the referee had refused to certify a record of the proceedings had on the trial before him-in technical legal phraseology, to settle the case—so as to enable the defeated party to review his dedown to figures which make it impossible to cision on appeal. He based his refusal on the fact that the notes of testimony were no longer in his possession, and he could not remember their contents. It appeared, however, that he did not even have them at the time he decided the case; and Judge LARRE-MORE very properly said that if a referce could remember evidence well enough to render judgment on it, he could remember it well enough to correct a statement of it prepared for the purposes of an appeal.

So many questions of importance are tried before referees in this city, that the courts cannot insist upon too high a standard of judicial conduct for these officers.

The Real Danger. The Rev. Dr. VERMILYEA, the Dutch Re formed minister, is afraid that our school system is going to suffer at the hands of foreigners. "We must educate foreigners to be republicans," he said at a ministers' meeting on Monday, "or prepare to apply force to protect our institutions against them by and by."

Such remarks are frequently made by elergymen of Dr. VERMILYEA's general theological stripe. They are fond of suggesting the possibility, may, the probability, of a war over religion and education.

And yet our common school system grows stronger every year, and in this city the fathers who avail themselves of the privileges offered by the schools are chiefly foreigners or the sons of foreigners. They are not men like Dr. VERMILYEA, with incomes large enough to enable them to send their children to private schools where tuition fees are charged, and where class ideas may be planted and nourished.

The education of foreigners to be republicans is going on all the time, in the schools and out, but principally in our political campaigns, and they are generally eager to learn the lesson and perform the duties of citizens. The apathy toward public affairs of the native citizens of the class to which Dr. VERMILYEA belongs-their indifference to our public schools in their practical management, for instance-constitutes the

grave evil we have to fear. If we ever have to fight to protect our institutions, it will be because of the neglect of such citizens to support the principles on which the republic was founded, and their hankering after aristocracy and imperialism. There lies the danger.

## The Fur Seal Monopoly.

Mr. Sherman announces with great gravity that the Alaska Commercial Company has taken all the seals it is entitled to take under the law. We thought so. But does Mr. Sherman know whether it has taken any nore than it was entitled to or not? Is the special agent on the islands an agent of the United States or of the company? Are the accounts so kept as to distinguish between the skins which come from the Russian islands, under the control of the company, and those which come from the American islands? Is the Government protected against fraud?

The Fur Seal Ring has prospered greatly under its fraudulent lease. Alaska has been entirely under its dominion, and its power in the Treasury Department has een absolute. When JOHN F. MILLER, late President of the company, and also late Collector of the Port of San Francisco, is stronger still.

# Freedom of the Press.

It should not be forgotten, amid the rejoicing at the recent victory of the people over Tammany Hall, that it was another signal vindication of the freedom of the Dress.

Personal attacks on the character of the proprietor of one of our principal journals went for nothing, even if they did not positively benefit him, as many persons think they did.

Polities cannot be controlled in that way, and the utter failure of Mr. KELLY to accomplish anything by violent personal denunciation should be discouraging to others

of the same inclination. The present season of changes in the army ought to be improved by abolishing the Department of West Point. The post is not properly a department; it is naturally no more than a Colonel's command; it was only made a department in order to give Major-Gen. SCHO-FIELD, who had been assigned to it, a technical ommand commensurate with his rank. As it is likely that a new place will be assigned to Gen. SCHOFIELD, an order abolishing the department should go with it.

On the first day of the current session of Congress one of the first items of business brought forward was a resolution for the erec tion of another monument. The outburst of art sentiment which distinguished Congress last winter, taking the form of bills to build monuments and erect statues, thus promises to continue. The resolution in question was for a pillar to Larayette on the Brandywine buttlefield. But it might be better to club LAFAYETTE with ROCHAMBEAU and Admiral DE GRASSE in the foremost place of the Yorktown monument already provided for by Congress.

We are almost in 1881, and yet, according to a statement of Senator Jourston, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, the Public Printer is still behindhand with the agricultural report of 1879. Mr. Johnston is soon to offer a resolution asking the reason of this delay. It would be a judicrous comment on Le Duc's assurances of the value of his farming documents if his report for 1879 should not be printed until 1881. A less bulky and a prompter report would be more seasonable even if it tailed to contain detailed accounts of LE Duc's experiments in extracting sunbeams from eucumbers.

The railroad companies, surface and elerated, steam and horse, are said to be satisfied with the Inwood site for the fair; the steamboat ompanies, stable keepers, and hack drivers are also satisfied. This is natural, because the shief anxiety of the transporting interest has been to get the fair outside of any dense population, where nobody could reach it on foot,

There is no difference of opinion as to the utter unfitness of Fulton Market. Such a rickety, uncouth, ill-arranged edifice is a disgrace to the city. The main difficulty with all plans for rebuilding has been to provide for the business which has been so long transacted in that ocality. Yet there is plenty of room in Burling slip, only one block distant, for the erection of a temporary structure that could be used while the Fulton Market is being rebuilt.

The meeting of the KEELY Motor stockholders in Philadelphia the past week was fully up to the level of the predictions. A resolution

energy," and that "the vibratory engine for its utilization has progressed to that extent as to have demonstrated, in our opinion, that he is master of the situation." The pleasing as-surance was given that "nothing now remains but mechanical details," and that the machine will work "at an early day." But nothing ever remained but mechanical details, and this very same early day was due half a dozen years ago.

## MARCHING ON AT WASHINGTON,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. - Gradually and stealthily the army is planting a deep foundation at the capital, under the direction of Gen. Sherman and the military chiefs, acting in concert with, if not under the inspiration of the Republican managers. Year after year the and that the force now provided is insufficient to guard the frontier against Indian depredations. At the same time Congress is assured that the Indian problem is substantially solved,

and that the hostile tribes are seeking peace.

The contradiction of these official reports. oming from the same Administration, does not disturb the authors of them in the least degree. They move on as if in perfect harmony, not caring for the effect of such glaring mis representation on the public mind. The Military Ring keeps steadily in view the one great object of fortifying the position of the army in every possible way. That aim is never lost sight of, and it enters into the social life of Washington as an element of organized power

to operate on both parties. The last movement of Gen. Sherman and his associates is to abolish the old arsenal at the capital, long a depository of stores, and to convert it into a regular military post, with the headquarters of the Second Artillery, which are to be transferred there from Fort McHenry. Four companies of this regiment will be permanently stationed at Washington. Barracks, stables, and all the necessary outfit to accom-

nodate a much larger force are now under way People will naturally ask, What is the meaning of this change? If there be no need for these troops, except for parade at the capital, why not cut them off the Army bill? The military chiefs are fertile in resources, and it costs them no effort to invent pretences, which are so often accepted at more than their worth.

The whole tendency of the Republican organ ation is to strengthen its hands by the aid of the army and navy. Conscious of overstepping the limits of the Constitution, and designing to build up a centralized power at Washington. the desperate leaders look forward to contingencies, when the exertion of military force may become a necessity to the execution of their designs.

They know that the Great Fraud of 1876 was nly made possible by the use of the army. A body of troops was collected at Washington before the meeting of Congress that year, as a menace to the Representatives. Though fairly defeated, the Republican managers did not intend to give up possession of power, or to subject their conduct to scrutiny. Bather than submit to the people's will, they were ready for bloodshed and to initiate civil war.

Until recently the inauguration of a President had always been a civic ceremony, more or less simple. Jefferson set the example of riding to the Capitol unattended, and of entering the White House as a simple citizen, intrusted with the duties of Chief Magistrate. This simplicity did not suit the tastes or the ideas of the imperialists. At Grant's last inauguration the course of instruction at West Point was arrested, in order that the cadets might by their presence add to the pageant, in ompany with regular and volunteer troops. It is intended that the inauguration of Garfield

shall exceed all former experience in display. Large bodies of regulars have been ordered to be prepared for that occasion, which, externally at least, will have the pomp of a great military show. These signs are full of momentous neaning. They make manifest the plans of ambitious leaders to strike down the republican system, and to erect upon its ruins a strong government, inconsistent with the spirit of the Constitution, and intended to subvert its fundamental principles. Lot us be warned in time, for the danger is not distant,

# PACKING THE SUPREME COURT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.-The resignation of Mr. Justice Strong will be formally sent in this week, and the present intention is to appoint in made Senator from California, it will be his place William B. Woods, now Circuit Judge of the Fifth Judicial District, comprising leorgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louislana, and Texas. Mr. Strong's district, however, will be assigned to Bradley.

Judge Woods has one advantage over all ther aspirants. He is an Ohio man who went South to seek his fortune. He was an ardent Republican in the days of reconstruction and Grantism, and became a Judge in the natural operation of political laws. Compared with other Federal Judges in the South, he may be said to have borne himself decently. He is not charged with the gross outrages that lie at he doors of some of his associates. Because Judge Woods now holds a Southern circuit. and resides for convenience in a Southern State, it will be pretended that his appointment s a concession to the South, which is now not

corresented in the Supreme Court. Mr. Justice Swayne will retire before the close of the present Congress, so that Hayes will have the appointment of his successor. Stanley Matthews will be nominated for that vacancy, as the reward for his services in aid of the Great Fraud before the Electoral Commission, and in other capacities. Garfield could have had this appointment in his own hands. He knew of Hayes's bargain with Matthews, and though not too well disposed toward the latter, he has not backbone enough to refuse him, in case the vacancy should be deferred till after the fourth of March.

the fourth of March.
Stanley Matthews has long been a railroad and corporation attorney. There are already three, if not four, of that class on the Supreme bench. For the coming vacancies after the fourth of March, Garfield will nominate the men whom the great corporations want. The court will be packed in the interest of corporate power even more decidedly than it was packed by Grant to reverse the legal tender decision, by which reversal specie payments were postponed ten years, and the panic of 1873 was provoked.

provoked.

By a conventional usage the Senate confirms aimost anybody who has ever been a member of it, without regard to firness, character, or other indispensable conditions for office. Therefore, while there are high and honorable Senators who will never consent to vote for Stanley Matthews, his confirmation may be regarded as sure. Then one-third of the court will half from the State of Ohio, namely, Waite, Woods, and Matthews.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The frepoint occurrence of deaths and accidents resulting from recessioned by illuminating gas induces me to ask if be time has not been reached when some inquiry should be instituted by our health authorities, or by some other authority, in order to solve the question. Why do these

I find that is officed recent tatal accidents death has con-caused by what is seeined water gas guid that during the last decade, 1-70 to 1880, instances of death from no the or abuse of coal resource trequent.

The question is a scriptus one, and should have the greet and care all afterion not only of the guardians of the arch and areas and to our citizens themselves, the arch argues of the case companies, and should know to dampers, if any attending the invident and consequent and supposed them for lighting their offices and office.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A leading espaper published a report of Dr. Fulten's in Brookly's eacher, I believe) sermon of Similar has in which the eaker stated that the jails and prisens of this city ere filled by Roman Catholics.".

The Word of God admonishes us to "be sugry and sin Our blessed Lord appeled the lash to the money Gue blessed ford applied the lamb to the money nigerator describing the complex and the boundary but it is a start of picture and Christian rane. Hencome this action is a tile level of indice for taken, and in the house which each of indice for taken, and in the house which each of the picture by the picture law proper, or to stand before the public tiles, convicted as a public faileter and destinet, will set up to make a personal hour and investigation these but and investigation in compactful third party and will prove him a critical section. Prinaring, 1. 1. Dec. 10

### No Mining Legislation Likely. WARRINGTON, Dec. 11 .- It is not likely that

there will be any legislation in regard to mining claims

THE THREE MOVEMENTS FOR DEMO-CRATIC REORGANIZATION.

the exposure of the Tweed Ring there was im-

perative demand for the reorganization of the

city Democracy. The only result was a reor-

ganization of Tammany Hall under different leaders. Now, when the experience of the past four years has shown that the power of Tammany Hall is opposed to good municipal government and a menace to Democratic supremacy, a new demand for reorganization is heard. Any effort to reorganize will be futile which does not strike at the root of the evil. This is not Kelly, nor Kelly's dependents. They are the fruit, and not the root. Nor is it Tammany Hell, nor yet Irving Hall. Tammany is merely the branch from which the fruit hangs, and Irving merely a graft from Tammany. The radical evil lies in the fact that there is now no democratic organization of Democratic voters in this city. To be democratic, an organization must be framed to allow a free expression of the voter's preference, and to give that expression its due effect. An organization that does not allow this is not democratic, whatever it may be called. There is a vital defect in the Tammany system. It is this: The Tammany General Committee appoints the inspectors of election for each Assembly district, and these inspectors decide who have been chosen members of the General Committee at the primary elections. That amounts to a bargain: We will appoint you inspectors if you will return us as elected members of the General Committee-a short and convenient process, by which the committeemen can reflect themselves to office indefinitely, or, if they wish, name their own

committeemen can reflect themselves to office indefinitely, or, if they wish, name their own, successors. It will be seen that this plan provides admirably against any effective interference by votors.

There is no registration of voters at a Tammany primary. Any man can vote whom the inspectors regard as a Democrat, but if his vote is not counted, or is counted for the wrong person, he is helpless. Hence, the Tammany primary is a farce in which the public takes little interest. A gentleman who was formerly a member of Tammany, but who long since left it in disgust, describes a primary he attended in the old Seventh Assembly District. The election was held in a livery stable, and lines had been formed hours before the time for opening, each faction fearing that its rival would be first on the ground and take possession of the polls. Men were brought in from other Assembly districts, an expedient needless under the liberal impartiality shown by the inspectors. All voted to their bearts' content, some returning again and again to deposit large rolls of ballots. A barrel and two feed bags full of votes were thrown, each faction voting all it had printed, some 30,000 ballots in all. The inspectors measured the voters announced a proper majority for the members of the General Committee whom they were appointed to return as elected, and the meeting adjourned.

If, as often occurs, inspectors show independence, and return as elected persons not in accord with the ruling powers, the return of the inspectors can be contested. Even if the General Committee whom they were appointed to return as relected, and the meeting adjourned.

If as often occurs, inspectors show independence, and return as elected persons not in across the superesson of independent voters at a primary. They are disciplined out of Tammany on Maurice J. Power, who now succeeds Duffy as Police J. Power, who now succeeds Duffy as Police J. Power, who now succeeds Duffy as Police J. Paver, who now succeeds Duffy as Police J. Paver, who now succeeds Duffy

J. Power, who now succeeds Duffy as Police Justice.

Another peculiar feature of the Tammany Hall organization is its dependence on the Tammany Secret Society, a body admitting both Democrats and Republicans. Most of us can remember when it came to Tweed's rescue in 1870. The Young Democracy movement was started in revoit against Tweed. A majority of the Tammany General Committee were against him. Measures were to be taken at the next regular meeting to expel him, but when the members assembled they found the Hall dark and a squad of police guarding it. Kelly was the Grand Sachem of the Tammany Secret Society. He had convened the sachems who have control of the building, and they had refused to open it for the use of the committee. In the mean time, Tweed was in Albany bribing Republican. Senators to support the city. The baffled insurgents were forced to find another place of meeting, and were afterward known as the Irving Hall as a graft from Tammany. It has inherited the main defect of the parent tree. As in Tammany, the General Committee appoints the inspectors of elections. This permits the central body to dictate to voters from whom it should take commands. I do not mean that Irving Hall has all the vicious features of the Tammany organization. I say it inherits the worst one. Both organizations are essentially undemocratic.

The reign of Tweed, happily, has passed away. Kelly has been shorn of his strength, and will probably soon lose his supremacy in Tammany Hail. But let us not make the mistake of supposing that the deposition of Kelly will remedy existing ovis. Let the old system continues of the Democratic party in his grip and defying the people.

There are now under way three separate movements for the roorganization of the city Democracy. The Young Men's Democratic Club was the first, and a few seasons will see auother Kelly or another Tweed holding the formuses of the Democratic party in his grip and defying the people. Justice,
Another peculiar feature of the Tammany

Democracy. The Young Men's Democratic Ciub was the first to act. Its Executive Committee, after several weeks of careful work, has prepared a scheme which will be submitted this evening. A conference of prominent Democrats has been held on several ovenings at the Hotel Brunswick for a like purpose. The Executive Committee of Irving Hall has prepared and submitted a report embodying the main features of a plan of reorganization. These separate and spontaneous movements show that the need of reorganization is constituted. hat the need of reorganization is generally rec

separate and spontaneous movements show that the need of reorganization is generally recognized.

Whatever plan is adopted must in order to succeed, be democratic first of all. No board, committee, or central body must be given greater power than is absolutely necessary for nurposes of a final decision of contested cases. The registration of voters must be provided for, and the voter effectively protected in the deposit and correct counting of his ballot. Moreover, the plan must not be framed with a design to give any one existing organization or Hall an undue advantage, or it will meet the blitter opposition of rivals, and the movement will degenerate into a mere war of factions. The plan should provide for such a selection of places for holding primary elections—liquor saloons being excluded—as shall encourage the respectable people to attend. It should not be put forth as the exclusive scheme of any club, Hall, or clique, or it will invite opposition and be regarded as a device to give trominence to the body urging it. The gentlemen who have undertaken the work of reorganization are entitled to the thanks of all Democrats. The draving of a satisfactory plan is no easy task. But it should be horne in mind that exclusive in tied to the thanks of all Democrats. The drafting of a satisfactory plan is no easy task. But it should be borne in mind that getting it adopted by the voters and getting those elected under it recognized by the State Committee is yet more difficult. Jefferson said: "All experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer white evis are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing forms to which they are necustomed." I think any plan to be successful, must appear as the result of the combined efforts of those now engaged upon the work, endersed by the prominent and experienced Democrats of the sity.

Another Jeffersensonian Democrat.

# Another Jeffersonian Demochat.

### Mr. Gibson's Pastoral Days. One of the most beautiful volumes ever

on (Harjers). It is divided into four parts according to the four seasons. It relates to all kinds of natural of cts, flowers, birds, insects, sunshine, the growth of reps, the fading of autumn, the snows and frosts of win er. It is a history of the year, with descriptions of nature, anecdotes, observations of character, reflections artistic, scutimental, social, and religious. The identraionis, all designed by Mr. Gibson, and more than a hundred and fifty in number, are executed with a perfe tion almost beyond the capacity of panegyric. Art never equalled and cannot excel the beauty of these prints. We risk nothing in saying that this is the most charmin gift book that can be produced for the heliday season.

# Refusing to 8it with Plymouth Church.

The anti-Beecher Congregational churches not join in the council to metall the flev. W. F. Crafts as pastor of the Church of Christian Endeaver, in Lee as pastor of the church of Christian Endeavor in Lee avenue, Brockin, and the counted accordingly will be held on Thursday pext under Beecher anapiess. An invitation was sent to all Congregational churches in the vientus of New York, and mainty pers not the church believed that it would be the eccasion of a percent reconciliation. The Church of the Phirrims and the Church advance Congregationals therein has been advanced our grain from it their determination not be followship with Physicall Church and many other churches, including the Broad-thurch and many other churches, including the Broad-thurch.

Threatened Revolt of Brooklyn Democrats. The meeting of the Democratic General Comittee of Kings County to morrow evening is looked to ward to with much interest. There will be another di eranches in all the wards and con

### dames W. Husted Claiming a Big Fee. The Hon. James W. Husted has made a claim

\$11,000 for services as referes in the suit of the Na ional Life Insurance Company's policy for the distribu-tion of a surplus of \$155,000 which was on deposit with the State Superintendent of Insurance when the com-any builtd in 1873. The referre refuses to deliver up

HERR FON HOCHENECHT ALARMED. The Remarkable Information Imparted by

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: After the Judge to Col. von Ritter. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Honored Gentleman: As by my fire last evening I was reclining myself, my mind with the remembrance of days and peoples long since passed filled, there entered to me mine old friend and

companion in arms, the Col. von Ritter. By the kindness of a gentleman most distinguished, to whom some time was the position of the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty of this great city, there is now to the Col. von Ritter the office in the house of customs of messenger collector, wherefrom it comes to him, the Colonel, to hear the frequent conversations and informations of the rulers of this land; and it having been mentioned by me to him of the fear and the anxiety that was to me on account of your course in the opposition to the Gen. Grant, has the Colonel to me said that through the friend to him, the Judge (the name of whom it was the promise of me not to transpire) had come to him the information of the patriotism. the generosity, the self-abnegation, and the modesty of the Gen. Grant, so profound, so godlike, that to him, the Colonel, had you and your paper become an object the most hateful

godike, that to him, the Colonel, that you amy your paper become an object the most hateful and unworthy.

It was by the Col, von Ritter then stated to me, as from his friend, the Judge, that when to this country came the war of the secession, it was to the Gen. Grant to be the possessor of the lands, the houses, the eattles most vast and comprehensive. That, as to us in our own dear fatherland, no hesitancy came to the mind of the Gen. Grant, the houses, the lands, the cattles of him were into gold, on the moment, converted, and with the proceeds was the army which the rebellion conquered levied. That when the war was by him to a successful close accomplished, and the Gen. Grant by the patriotism, the valor, and the disinterestedness of him, so godlike, the supreme command of the armies for himself for his life acquired, with the remuneration for the support of him and the family of him sufficient, once again, at the call of the nation, he it all relinquished and the office of the President took to himself. That nevertheless the expense so vast, that always the office of the President took to himself. That nevertheless the expense so vast, that always to a ruler must come, in the entertainment by him of the guests of the nation, he, mindful to himself of the debt of the war, then the country and the peoples oppressing, caused the salary of him as President to be reduced by the one-half of the same.

That nevertheless that by his acts he had himself and the family of him impoverished, the Gen. Grant did upon the Iriends and relations of him the offices of the Government refuse to be stow orto permit the servants of the

himself and the family of him impoverished, the Gen, Grant did upon the friends and relations of him the offices of the Government refuse to bestow orto permit the servants of the nation presents or recompenses to receive. Again, that the peoples having to themselves the desire that to the powers of the world should the greatness and the magnitude of this country be made apparent, he, the Gen. Grant, by the wish of them expressed and as the ambassador of them, did to himself the trouble and the fatigue of the world's journey undertake, and that the Congress of the Democrats, far from assuming to the Treasury the expenses by the embassy incurred, have allowed it to the Gen. Grant the expenses entire to bear. That to the Gen. Grant, from the particitism, the generosity of him, is now the poverty most dire, and yet that to you nevertheless remains the course of opposing that to him should be made a recompense for the blood and the treasure of him so freely contributed. Is it that to a country so great, so vast, like this, should come the charge of ungrateful? Is it that to a man who to his fatheriand has sacrificed the lands, the houses, the cattles, from the ancestors of him from generation to generation come down, should in the years of his life declining be harassed and annoved when with prosperity and riches the whole nation is filled? What have you? Is it that the gods desiring the destruction of you have first made madness to you come? Is there to you, none of care for the poeterity of yourself or your, families, or has it come to you, as to Louis XIV., that after you may the deluge come, and chaos and void exist? I am, honored gentlemn, with much commiseration for the cause of you.

New York, Dec. 12. F. VON HOCHENECHT. NEW YORK, Dec. 12.

To the Editor of The Bun-Sir: On the tainment in Flymouth Church, Brooklyn, designed tillustrate the manuers of the Holy Land. A prominen eature was the exhibition, as an amusing farce, of Mohammedan at prayer. The dervish came out, dropped sonammeuan at prayer. The dervish came out, dropped upon his knees upon a rug spread for the purpose, put his sight hand to his cheek, and intend his prayer to Alish, the one God, the Jehovah of the Hebrew, and the Heavenly Father of the Christian. Leoking once upward, once to the right, and once to the left, and teuching the floor with his torehead, he rose, rolled up the rug, and left the stage. g, and left the stage. The facts illustrate more than the usages of the Orient. The facts illustrate more than the usages of the Orient. The facts illustrate more than the penilence and pulletation to his God, among a people that are not olders but purer monotheists than ourselves, not exhibit with the reverence shown at Ober-Ammeran, it made a seek in the consedy of a traveling show and der the suspices and with the active sametion of a deciron, preacher.

# Are the Churches Losing Ground !

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I noticed in the New York Observer a leading article, headed "Is the Church Declaring?" in which we were informed, on the cent meeting in Madison, Wis , that the additions of mem screlip to the Presbyterian Church of the United State have been, 1875-70, 48,240, 1876-77, 43,088, 1877-78 12,277, 1878-70, 29,196, 1879-80, 10,808, total, 170,610 2277. 1878-70. 20.106. Involved, 24.838. total, 170-610 its second to indicate a failing away of about one third its second to indicate a failing away of about one third its years. We are further interpreted that the cert a backwidding of the standing membership during he same time of \$6,088. or more than \$19.00 per annum stater a like decline in other deconstantions. I schurch bembership really falling off so rapidly, white the population of our country is community increasing.

ALBANT, N. Y. Dec. 8.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The resent pew renting system of a great majority of our furches is a disgrace to Christianity, and it only eads to be brought home to the attention of all true bristians to bring about a radical reform The rich man takes a pew just as he does a bex at the pera, and generally for about the same reason, while here are thousands of people who are too poor to pay

at they are not welcome or because they are too gallery.
"My house is a house of prayer, but ye have made it den of thieves," said our great Master on a certain occaion. Change the latter part of the textimo "ye have nade it like an opera house, where the man with the nost money gets the best seat," and you have the next money gets the best seat," and you have the mostern church.

The great objection urged against free churches is hat the church would not be properly supported by the tree will offerings of the congregation. I know of one thurch which has tried the free jew system for three or our years past, and it is in a more prosperous condition move than it has been for fen years. I have no doubt that other free churches will report the same result.

Fig. Parys.

FULTON, N. Y., Dec. 12.-On Thursday George ardner, aged 12, son of a prominent resident of this vil lare, was reduced to a lower class in school. He was so overcome with morthication that on Friday he left his home, and was last seen on that day in Syracuse. No trace of him can be found.

A Schoolboy's Mortification.

# IT SHINES FOR ALL.

The American Newspaper Press Reflecting the Light of The Sun. Record, Contraville, Mit. - The Sun is one of the best Demo ratic papers in the country.

Times, Birario, N. F.-Tue Sus has a large circulation in his county, and it will undoubtedly be increased the coming year. San, B. Geport, Chan - We advise everybody in Bridge

cort to subscribe at once for our great big New York Lulepeatrut, Mexico, N. F.-Tux Sux is a very newsy readable sheet, and is thouroughly independent and outspoken on political matters.

Adertion, Greenville, S. C.—One of the greatest papers ablished in America. It turnishes the most news in tho ast space of any paper printed. Herall, Cumumota, N. F.-Tha Sen is a newspaper in

very sense that the term implies, ably edited and furrished at an astonishingly low price. Times, Minut Union. Pa .- There are few papers that will quatfer Scs. It is worth a half dozen such papers as he New York Wichter the Philadelphia Ledger.

Times. Follow, & F .- This spirited paper is growing in avor each day of its existence. For boldness, originality, and truthibleess it is commended to independent people Trebuie, Farmosth, N. S.-The most thoroughly homest ndependent, and fearless newspaper in the United States—in the civilized world—is unquestionably Tue Sex. Latellegeneer, Giverselle, N. P.-We recognize the ability apparent in Tax Non a editorial columns and the rude pendent and hearless expression of the views of the writre on the important topics of the day.

Scattart, Leminos, Pa. The Sex is progressive. It uses with his fist. One day her sex a tor large we oly such plan words as give to its atterances their treatest force. Its independence is not of the sort that attempts to please all classes, good and but, alike,

Denount, Toul homsels, Fa .- Tux Sow is the ablest edited paper in the United States and also has the largest circu-lation. To Democrate we have no hesitation, in recomsending it as a paper containing sound, constitutional octrines.

Democrat, Chaton, N. J .- To all who write a thereough metropolitan newspaper, intopendent of both political parties, while bold and uncompromising and untiring in s hostility to centralization and usurpation in Federal sflairs. The Ses is to be commended,

-Mme. Modjeska's next character in Lon-

don is to be that of Adriente Lecouvreur -Prof. Arndt of Leipsic, who has been devoting himself for some time to the study of Gorthe's life and writings, has discovered a hitherto unknown work

of the poet-a "Singspiel" in prose-which will soon be published in proper form. -There are at present in South Carolina twelve colleges, two professional schools, three in-

training schools, eighty-one private scademics, fity size public academics, three evening elementary schools, 22 private elementary schools, and 2,783 public schools. -On the 12th and 13th of October last a camp meeting was held in Tokio, which was prejected

and conducted exclusively by native Christians. Many officers of the Government and a number of Buddhist priests were present, the audience on the second day reaching 5,000 persons. -The Chicago Methodist Conference has been discussing the quality of the Western Book Con-cern's publications. The Rev. J. H. Alling said that the daily papers contained for more Methodist news than

could be found in the Methodist weeknes, and others expressed similar opinions.

—A committee of the Maryland Society for the Protection of Children from Crusity and Immorality are visiting all shopkeepers in Baltimore who employ women and girls, and endeavoring to induce them to pr

vide scats for the women when not actually engaged in waiting upon customers. -U. N. Arnott, an old member of the Wost Virginia Legislature, and once its President, while on his way home from a religious meeting on a dark eight, took a path along an overlanging cliff, trusting to his far all-arity with the ground for salety; but a misstep sent him down the precipice, and his neck was broken.

-Mr. Beaman of Chester, N. Y., is build-

ing, as a memorial to his wife, daughter, and grand daughter, a magnificent granite and marble ma daughter, a magnificent granite and marble mansoleam at Cuttingsville, Vi., which is to cost over \$60,000, every-thing being of the best workmanship and most enturing materials, the bronze door alone costing \$5,000. -The Continental gambling establishments appear to be going from bad to worse. At Nonte Carlo the pelice have strict orders to search the grounds every night for the bodies of suicides, and to remove

them as quickly as possible, that visitors may not b shocked by their remains. At Monaco matters see be in the same state. -Though few people can believe seriously in the possibility of tunnelling under the sea for a rail-way from England to France, the Southeastern Railway Company in England bave been boring away for severa

weeks at Dover. They are now tunnelling a gallery under the sea through the chalk beds, and the work is to be continued for a year. -M. Ephrem Baryshof has published a omplete translation of Byron's "Cain" into the Rus stan language. Fragments of this poem have already been rendered into Russian verse, but it is only of late that the censorship has withdrawn its veto on the repro-duction of Lucifer's monologues and other characteri

tically Byronic passages. -The Jesuits banished from France are said to be taking over to Jersey upward of 10,000,000 francs, to be laid out in the purchase of property there, as well as 3,000,000 francs to Malta for the purpose of ounding a college, while the inhabitants of Potters con plain that their town will lose 10,000,000 francs by the

-Signor Filippo Mariotti has had the patience to count all the words in Dante's " Diving tienme-dia." The number is 199,542, equally divided between the three parts-the Inferno, the Purgatorio, and the Para dise; or, as the work contains one hundred cantes, about a thousand words to each canto. He has ascertained that, deducting repetitions, the ninety-nine thousand words of Dante consist of 260 adverbs, 2,637 substantives, 927 adjectives, 1,752 verbs, &c. In all, 5,660 words have been

-A wedding party was assembled at Cleveland, and everything was ready for the ceremony, except that the bridegroom had not arrived. After waiting an hour beyond the appended time, the bride fainted and the guests were about to disperse. Thing a policeman came in, and said that he had driven from the door a drunken man, who wanted to enter. A search in the neighborhood resulted in finding this man, who was the missing bridegroom. He was not intexicated, but -A train of emigrants lost themselves in

an Oregon desert, thirty years ago, and wandered for several days before finding their way out. They afterward said that they had seen a place strewn with mig gets of gold, but were at the time suffering starvation, and did not suppose they would live to care anything about the treasure. A grizzly old man was recently encountered in that region. He had been searching since 1850 for these nuggets, and declared that he would suck to it until he died. -A woman 80 years old has starved to eath in Boston. She was weak from old age, and could

not have lived much longer in any event, but lack of food was what killed her. Her daughter was a wasnerwoman, but could get very little work, and was so sens-tive on the subject of her poverty that she would not be a she and her mother had nothing to eat for a week but some meat and a small piece of meet, and for two days were wholly without food. The old woman lay helpless in bed, moaning, "I am starving," yet the daugher

-Emigration as a national evil is sorely troubling Italian statesmen. Statistics prove to us but 1,168,000 emigrants left their overtaxed country letwen 1868 and 1878, having previously obtained communics trom the Government, whereas an unknown number at nually depart without letting the Government know. And of all these it is estimated that one-quarter go away with the determination never to return. The largest contingent is supplied by the province or Venice, the next by Genos, and the third by Lombardy, apparently

in exact ratio to their former prosperity. -A Congregation was recently held at the Senate House, in the University of Cambridge, England, to decide whether, in certain portions of the University course, the obligation to satisfy the examiners in the Greek language should not be relaxed, and a knowledge of French and German accepted in its place. There was a large attendance, and many members of the Senate living at a distance were present. The first "grace" on the subject, which involved the principle of the non-com pulsory study of Greek, was rejected by 185 non-placets to 145 placets; and Greek will thus retain its present place in the University course.

-The total abstainers' argument that ven the beasts will not drink alcoholic fluids is often met by adverse facts. In Grass Valley, Cal., all the hors on a ranch went on a spree together. The contents of a wine cask ran out 10to a pool, and they found the beverage good. The account says "Some were frisky and full of play, others belligerent and swaggering around hunting up fights; some maundering around in an imbe-cile way, walking in corkscrew style and tumbling over the least obstruction that lay in their path, while sev-eral of the larger hogs, that had managed to get in the

-Policeman Martin of St. Louis, who comunitted spinish immediately after being discussed may the force, was not the victor of persecution, which the elegraphed news of the event implied. He was a drink ard, and his sergeant had been several times compared to report him for misconduct. One must be say the sergeant hitch his horse and go into a low resert. This was his opportunity for revenge, he thought and, and waiting half an hour, he led the horse to the sation; and said that the sergeant had but it wandering while of drank in the house. The truth was that the latter 904 in the place searching for witnesses in an important case. The lattice of this effort nearly grazed Martin, and when the Commissioners disgraced how he shot himse

-There is a rule in all theatres against the utterance by performers of any words not set in n their parts, and in well-managed establishments it it randly enforced. Henck's Opera House's a large and prosperous Cincinnate theatre, but the admission of the are chear, the audiences drink and snoke and the which they appear. Manager items and sector are inclined to take liberties with the present which they appear. Manager items is deter used to describe his commany. Standing at the presupers place, he licens for interpolations, and threshold the offenders. One actor was client because the great laughed at his course look, but an retirous he was promptly knocked down by fleuck. A susce who shed in original and objectionable verse to a song was till

-The case of the Rev. James W. Cole. &

Methodist pastor at Charlemont, Mass, has been kent be fore the public for over a year, and has just been received. a court of law. Mr Cole married a girl who had 1-9 first wife's servant. He had been secustomes because the server discipline in his family, but the new Mis C. elied against his rule, and became sudent a that. He claimed that she was at times result in her sunt to an asymmetric flavor can be seen field that she was rational this there, and seen descharged. Her motile treates after namey. Romors that the minister (afters) has whe were circuited in Christian of Stahis band. Her alcounters to a the masks of she declared that his hist transmits bearing was truck by his Conference. The solid of the struck his wife, but pleaded that he could so minister way. He said that she had assi-

in . Encouraged by this successwith his he terrain a soil for damages against the foreign which had published a truthout and affair. In the course of the trial course we mission of certain testimony to cause it had the Conference. Judge Pitteren sub-the server of a "Heaven forbid that we should be ion the sale dence of sectionation trinis." The syndict was !